

Elements of the CRFS

- A single, integrated statewide marine recreational finfish sampling program
- Increased sampling for private, rental, and CPFV vessels
- Estimation of beach/bank and private access angler effort using an angler license database



Photo courtesy of: R Porter

- Effort and catch estimation on man-made structures using instantaneous angler counts, roving effort surveys, and angler interviews
- Monthly effort and catch estimates for all modes at a finer geographical resolution
- Sufficient sampling of private/rental vessels to meet ocean management data requirements including collection of coded wire tags in salmon heads

California Department of Fish & Game

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Alternate communication format available.
Please contact the offices listed above.

CRFS

California Recreational Fisheries Survey

A cooperative project by the
California Department of Fish & Game
and the
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission



California Recreational Fisheries Survey

What is the CRFS?

The California Recreational Fisheries Survey (CRFS) is the new method for estimating total marine recreational finfish catch and effort in California. The CRFS is a coordinated sampling survey designed to gather catch and effort data from anglers in all modes of marine recreational finfish fishing. This program incorporates and updates the comprehensive sampling methodologies of the former Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS) and the California Department of Fish and Game's (CDFG) Ocean Salmon Project.

The primary goal of the CRFS is to produce in a timely manner, marine recreational, fishery-based data needed to sustainably manage California's marine recreational fishery resource.

The CRFS program incorporates many changes and improvements over previous surveys, including:

- High frequency on-site sampling
- On-site estimates of private skiff effort
- Emphasis on species of concern
- Use of an angler license database for effort estimates



Photo courtesy of:
W Van Buskirk

Why was the CRFS created?

In response to fishery managers' and constituents' concerns about the use of MRFSS for making in-season management decisions, CDFG and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) developed the CRFS. The CRFS was created to provide accurate and timely estimates of marine recreational finfish catch and effort. The program was implemented state-wide in January 2004.



Photo courtesy of: Ed Roberts

Sampling Effort

As a result of the increased sampling levels, recreational fishermen, particularly those who fish frequently, are more likely to encounter CDFG / PSMFC representatives conducting the survey. Angler cooperation is critical to the success of the survey.

Every fishing trip is different—different target species, locations, gear, etc. - so, even if you have completed the survey before, please cooperate each time you are asked!

Your participation is essential to insure accurate data collection and sustainable management of California's marine recreational fishery.

2004 CRFS Sample Increases over 2003 MRFSS: Jan - Aug

